CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for operating an electronic program guide displaying television programming information, comprising the following steps:

displaying a user interface indicating television programming information comprising a plurality of channels, time periods and programs configured as a program grid comprising program tiles associated with programs, wherein a user can realize when and on what channel a program is offered by viewing a program tile associated with the program, and wherein the user interface implements recording and reminding functionality by providing icons configured to be dragged and dropped by the user into a program tile associated with any program, where the icons can be seen after being dropped, to indicate desire by the user to record the program or be reminded of the program, respectively;

generating a query, in response to activation by the user of a query generating button defined by the user interface, wherein the activation of the query generating button results in display of a find window of the user interface to assist the user in creating a query, wherein the query defines a search of an electronic programming guide database, wherein the user interface is configured to allow the user to save the query, and wherein the saving results in creation of a soft button, defined on the user interface, such that operation of the soft button allows a user to quickly retrieve and operate the saved query;

receiving search parameters from the find window, the parameters comprising: genre; network; rating; and program name;

displaying an advanced find window in response to selection of an advanced query button within the find window, wherein the advanced find window allows search by additional search parameters including keywords, wherein the advanced find window defines a plurality of user created searches, wherein a user created search may be saved by the user by associating the search with a tabbed folder, and wherein tabbed folders may be created and removed by operation of buttons within the advanced find window;

querying the electronic programming guide database using filters, comprising:

a filter finding program types desired by the user; and

a filter removing program types not desired by the user; and

unifying plural queries using a unified query function configured to combine queries of plural individuals into a unified query, wherein the combining is performed by a Boolean AND or OR ~~function.~~ function; and

operating the unified query function as a background query, the operating comprising:

periodically running the unified query function;

identifying a program according to the unified query;

displaying an icon on a screen, for view by the user, after identifying the program; and

recording the identified program if the user does not activate the icon prior to a viewing time of the identified program.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the following steps:

presenting, to the viewer, a list of the channels identified by the query; and

ordering the channels within the list according to the percentage of time that the channels are selected for viewing so that channels which are selected a higher percentage of the time appear at one place in the list and channels which are selected a lower percentage of the time appear at another place in the list.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of generating a query to identify channels which have been selected at least a threshold amount of time to eliminate rarely selected channels from identification.

4. (Currently Amended) An electronic program guide resident in a computer-readable storage ~~medium~~ device and executable on a processor to perform the steps of the method recited in claim 1.

5. (Original) A viewer computing unit programmed to perform the steps of the method recited in claim 1.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage ~~medium~~ device which directs a computer to perform the steps of the method recited in claim 1.

7. (Previously Presented) A method for operating an electronic program guide displaying television programming information, comprising:

displaying a user interface indicating television programming information comprising a plurality of channels, time periods and programs, wherein a user can realize when and on what channel a program is offered by viewing a program tile associated with the program, and wherein the user interface implements recording and reminding functionality by providing icons configured to be dragged and dropped by the user into a program tile associated with any program, wherein the icons can be seen after being dropped, to indicate desire by the user to record the program or be reminded of the program, respectively;

generating a query, in response to activation by the user of a query generating button defined by the user interface, wherein the activation of the query generating button results in display of a find window of the user interface to assist the user in creating a query, wherein the query defines a search of an electronic programming guide database, wherein the user interface is configured to allow the user to save the query, and wherein the saving results in creation of a soft button, defined on the user interface, such that operation of the soft button allows a user to quickly retrieve and operate the saved query;

presenting a list of programs to the user, wherein the presented list is obtained by searching comprising:

obtaining data from a 10-key keypad such that each of 26 letters is associated with one key of the 10-key keypad;

iteratively searching for programs having sequential letters in a word in a title of the program corresponding to corresponding sequential keystrokes of the 10-key keypad; and

presenting the user, upon each iterative search, with successively shorter lists of programs from which to select a desired program;

displaying an advanced find window in response to selection of an advanced query button within the find window, wherein the advanced find window defines a plurality of user created searches, wherein a user created search may be saved by the user by associating the search with a tabbed folder, and wherein tabbed folders may be created and removed by operation of buttons within the advanced find window;

unifying plural queries using a unified query function configured to combine queries into a unified query, wherein the combining is performed by a Boolean AND or OR function; and

operating a query generated by the user as a background query, wherein the operating comprises:

periodically running the query;

identifying a program according to the query;

displaying an icon on a screen, for view by the user, after identifying the program; and

recording the identified program if the user does not activate the icon prior to a viewing time of the identified program.

8. (Currently Amended) An electronic program guide displaying television programming information, comprising:

a memory communicatively coupled to a processor, wherein computer-executable instructions are stored on the memory, and wherein execution of the instructions by the processor results in operation of:

a user interface indicating television programming information comprising a plurality of channels, time periods and programs, wherein a user can realize when and on what channel a program is offered by viewing a program tile associated with the program, wherein the user interface implements recording and reminding functionality by providing icons configured to be dragged and dropped by the user into a program tile associated with any program, and wherein the icons can be seen after being dropped, to indicate desire by the user to record the program or be reminded of the program, respectively;

a find window within the user interface, displayed in response to activation of a query generating button, to assist the user in creating a query, wherein the query created by operation of the find window defines a search of an electronic programming guide database, wherein the user may save the query, and wherein the saving results in creation of a soft button, defined on the user interface, such that operation of the soft button allows a user to quickly retrieve and operate the saved query;

an advanced find window, displayed in response to selection of an advanced query button within the find window, wherein the advanced find window allows search by additional search parameters including keywords, wherein the advanced find window defines a plurality of user created searches, wherein a user created search may be

saved by the user by associating the search with a tabbed folder displayed within the advanced find window, and wherein tabbed folders may be created and removed by operation of buttons within the advanced find window;

a unified query function configured to combine queries into a unified query, wherein the combining [[is]]being performed by a Boolean AND or OR function, the unified query function also configured to operate as a background query, the operating comprising:

periodically running the unified query function;

identifying a program according to the unified query;

displaying an icon on a screen, for view by the user, after identifying the program; and

recording the identified program if the user does not activate the icon prior to a viewing time of the identified program; and

a quick find window, displayed within the user interface, for presenting a list of programs to the user, wherein the presented list is obtained by searching using input data from a 10-key keypad such that each of 26 letters is associated with one key of the 10-key keypad, wherein the quick find window iteratively presents to the user, upon iterative searches prompted by a keystroke of the 10-key keypad, successively shorter lists of programs from which to select a desired program, wherein each program in the lists has sequential letters in a word in a title of the program corresponding to sequential keystrokes of the 10-key keypad.